

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MC-02 PM-04 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DODE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - RASMITH:MFG

APPROVED BY EA/TB - GBROBERTS

PM/MC:JHATAWAY (SUBS)

PM/SAS:JNOTARGIACOMO

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P 282131Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, EGEN, TH

SUBJECT: MUNITIONS PRODUCTION IN THAILAND

REFS : A. STATE 148213; B. STATE 083044

1. ROBERT BARRY, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF US MUNITIONS CONSORTIUM, INC.(USMC), VISITED THE DEPARTMENT JULY 26. BARRY STATED THAT HE WOULD ARRIVE IN BANGKOK ON/ABOUT AUGUST 5 TO CONCLUDE "FINAL NEGOTIATIONS" ON USMC'S PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A 20 MM MUNITIONS PLANT IN THAILAND. BARRY EXPLAINED, HOWEVER, THAT DESPITE THE THAI CABINET'S APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF THE USMC PROPOSAL, THE RTAF INSISTED THAT THEY RECEIVE A LETTER FROM THE EMBASSY STATING THAT THE USMC HAS RECEIVED A FAVORABLE ADVISORY OPINION FROM MUNITIONS CONTROL.

2. BARRY NOTED THAT SUCH A LETTER HAD BEEN WRITTEN BY POL/MIL COUNSELOR BOEHM TO GENERAL KRIANGSAK JULY 8, 1975, FOR A USMC PROPOSAL FOR A BOMB-LOADING AND PACKING PLANT.

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SINCE THAT TIME, THE SITUATION HAD CHANGED AND USMC WAS

NOW SEEKING A CONTRACT TO BUILD A 20 MM AMMUNITION PLANT. BARRY STATED THAT BECAUSE OF THE BOEHM LETTER, A PRECEDENT HAD BEEN SET AND UNLESS SECOND LETTER FOR THE NEW USMC PROPOSAL WAS WRITTEN BY THE EMBASSY, THE RTAF WOULD

NOT SIGN THE CONTRACT.

3. BARRY WAS TOLD THAT THE EMBASSY HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED AT ITS DISCRETION TO ADDRESS A LETTER TO APPROPRIATE RTG/RTAF AUTHORITIES ADVISING THEM THAT THE USG HAD NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO USMC ESTABLISHMENT IN THAILAND OF A 20 MM AMMUNITION PLANT. SUCH A LETTER WOULD HAVE TO EMPHASIZE, HOWEVER, THAT ALTHOUGH WE DID NOT ANTICIPATE ANY DIFFICULTY, THE USG WAS IN NO WAY ABLE TO GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY OF EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, AND SUPPLIES FOR SUCH A PLANT AND THAT THE ADVISORY IN NO WAY CONSTITUTED ENDORSEMENT OF USMC PER SE.

4. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT SUCH A LETTER SHOULD BE WRITTEN ONLY AT THE EMBASSY'S DISCRETION. IF NO LETTER HAS BEEN WRITTEN, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE SOME EMBASSY COMMENT BEFORE BARRY CALLS AGAIN. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRADE VISITS, ARMS PRODUCTION, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ullricre  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE186971  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RASMITH:MFG  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760292-0510  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 148213, 76 STATE 83044  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ullricre  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 JUL 2004  
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**TAGS:** MARR, MASS, PFOR, EGEN, BTRA, TH, US, USMC, US MUNITIONS CONSORTIUM INC, (BARRY, ROBERT)  
**To:** BANGKOK  
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